

Serial No. 09/918,733
Response dated 07 January 2008
Reply to Office Action of 27 September 2007

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the subject application.

Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A speech recognition system comprising:

a querying device for posing at least one query to a respondent over a telephone;

a speech recognition device which receives an audio response from said respondent over the telephone and conducts a speech recognition analysis of said audio response to automatically produce a corresponding text response;

a storage device for recording and storing said audio response as it is received by said speech recognition device;

an accuracy determination device for automatically comparing said text response to a text set of expected responses and determining whether said text response corresponds to one of said expected responses, wherein said accuracy determination device is configured and arranged to determine whether said text response corresponds to one of said expected responses within a predetermined accuracy confidence parameter and to flag said audio response so as to produce a flagged audio response for further review by a human operator when said text response does not correspond to one of said expected responses within said predetermined accuracy confidence parameter; and

a human interface device for enabling said human operator to hear said flagged audio response and review the corresponding text response for the flagged audio response to determine the actual text response for the flagged audio response, either by selecting from a pre-determined list of text responses or typing the actual text response if no such match exists in the pre-determined list of text responses.

2.-4. (Cancelled)

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5. (Previously presented) The speech recognition system of claim 1, wherein said human interface device comprises a personal computer including a monitor for enabling the human operator to view said text responses and an audio speaker device for enabling the operator to listen to said flagged audio responses.

6. (Previously presented) The speech recognition system of claim 5, wherein said querying device includes a program having an application file, said application file including code which causes the at least one query to be posed to the respondent, a list of expected responses and an address at which a file containing the received audio response will be stored in the storage device.

7. (Previously presented) The speech recognition system of claim 1, wherein said querying device includes a program having an application file, said application file including code which causes the at least one query to be posed to the respondent, a list of expected responses and an address at which a file containing the received audio response will be stored in the storage device.

8. (Previously presented) The speech recognition system of claim 1, wherein said human interface device includes a graphical user interface on which the human operator views said text set of expected responses, wherein after listening to said audio response, the human operator is able to select one of said expected responses from said text set of expected responses if the human operator determines that the response corresponds to one of said expected responses.

9. (Previously presented) The speech recognition system of claim 7, wherein said human interface device includes a graphical user interface on which the human operator views said text set of expected responses, wherein after listening to said audio response, the human operator is able to select one of said expected responses from said text set of expected responses.

10. (Previously presented) The speech recognition system of claim 9 wherein said graphical user interface comprises an application navigation window for enabling the human operator to navigate through said text set of expected responses, and an audio navigation window for

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enabling the human operator to control playback of said audio response.

11. (Previously presented) The speech recognition system of claim 8, wherein said graphical user interface comprises an application navigation window for enabling the human operator to navigate through said text set of expected responses, and an audio navigation window for enabling the human operator to control playback of said audio response.

12. (Previously presented) The speech recognition system of claim 10, wherein said graphical user interface includes a text entry window which enables the human operator to enter a text response if none of said expected responses from said text set of expected responses corresponds to said audio response.

13. (Previously presented) The speech recognition system of claim 9, wherein said graphical user interface includes a text entry window which enables the human operator to enter a text response if none of said expected responses from said text set of expected responses corresponds to said audio response.

14.-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously presented) A method of transcribing an audio response comprising:

- A. posing a query to a respondent over the telephone;
- B. receiving an audio response from said respondent over the telephone;
- C. performing a speech recognition function on said audio response to automatically convert said audio response to a textual response;
- D. recording said audio response;
- E. comparing said textual response to a set of expected responses to said query, said set including a plurality of expected responses to said query in a textual form; and

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F. flagging said audio response so as to produce a flagged audio response for further review by a human operator if the corresponding textual response does not correspond to one of said expected responses in said set of expected responses within a predetermined accuracy confidence parameter,

G. a human operator listening to the actual audio response corresponding to said flagged audio response; and

H. a human operator determining if one of said expected responses corresponds to said actual audio response; and

I. if such determination of step H. is in the affirmative, selecting, from said set of expected responses, a textual response that corresponds to said audio response.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising:

J. manually transcribing a textual response that corresponds to said audio response if such determination of step H is negative.

29. (Previously presented) A method of transcribing an audio response comprising:

A. constructing a speech recognition application including a plurality of queries and a set of expected responses for each query, said set including a plurality of expected responses to each query in a textual form;

B. posing each of said queries to a respondent over the telephone;

C. receiving an audio response to each query from said respondent over the telephone;

D. performing a speaker-independent speech recognition function on each said audio response to automatically convert each said audio response to a textual response to each query;

E. recording and storing each audio response;

F. automatically comparing each textual response to said set of expected responses for each

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corresponding query to determine if each textual response corresponds to any of said expected responses in said set of expected responses for the corresponding query;

G. flagging an audio response so as to produce a flagged audio response for further review by a human operator if the corresponding textual response does not correspond to one of said expected responses in said set of expected responses within a predetermined accuracy confidence parameter as determined by said speaker-independent speech recognition analysis,

H. a human operator listening to the actual audio response corresponding to said flagged audio response;

I. a human operator determining if one of said expected responses corresponds to said actual audio response; and

J. if such determination of step I. is in the affirmative, the human operator selecting, from said set of expected responses, a textual response that corresponds to said audio response, and flagging each audio response that does not correspond to one of said expected responses in said set of expected responses to the corresponding query.

30.-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Original) The method of claim 29, further comprising manually transcribing a textual response that corresponds to each flagged audio response if such determination of step J is negative.

34.-36 (Cancelled)